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For the Encouragement of Business.

Nothing could be more gratifying than the announcement that proceedings have begun in the criminal courts against two great and prosperous business concerns. At a time when the markets of the country are dull, when labor is not in demand, when the employed are beset with fears as to the maintenance of the rate of wages they now receive, the encouragement of capital to undertake great tasks is the project that lies nearest to the heart of the Department of Justice. The Attorney-General, Mr. WICKERHAM, will accordingly proceed to reward successful effort, foresight and labor with the threat of jail and the destruction of their fruits.

The business man whose only diversions have been to meet daily the competition of keen rivals, to obtain and safeguard his capital, to prejudice the whims and fancies of the public and prepare to meet them, now understands that if in that glorified gamble that is known as commerce he wins a prize the probability is that he will find himself under indictment, arraigned as a law-breaker and exposed to the world as a creature for whom the State prison is the only fit place of residence.

Were the business community in the full flood of a highly prosperous season such reflections as are inspired by this penalty of success might be expected to check in a certain degree the enthusiasm of the trading fraternity. With general conditions what they unhappily are to-day, the effect on overstrained nerves needs no description. When the insanity that persecutes the commercial class for success in great things is taken into account, the wonder is not that trade is below normal, but that legitimate enterprise dares anywhere to raise its head.

Mr. Taft on the Uplift of Crops.

We should judge from Mr. TAFT's recent remarks upon the farmer that he will never appoint a country life uplift commission. He seems to be more concerned about intensive farming than about so-called farming. It was the other way with his predecessor, Mr. ROOSEVELT, was afraid that the farmer and his wife and their children were not having a bully time. They never had cause to be delighted with anything, rain fell so steadily into their lives that all their days were dark and dreary. Mr. ROOSEVELT took a very lachrymose view of the farmer's lot. In a special message to Congress he said:

"I warn my countrymen that the great recent progress made in city life is not a full measure of our civilization, for our civilization rests at bottom on the wholesomeness, the attractiveness and the completeness as well as the prosperity of life in the country."

In the same message Mr. ROOSEVELT observed that the farmer's wife most needed consolation, but if she shirked her duty as house-keeper or as a bearer of healthy children her prime function was not entitled to our regard. Dr. LIBERTY HYDE BAILEY, the chairman of the commission, being in a fog about what uplifting was to be done and exactly what the commission's duties were to be Mr. ROOSEVELT enlightened him in a personal letter:

"You are simply trying to ascertain what are the general economic, social, educational and sanitary conditions of the open country, and what, if anything, the farmers themselves can do to help themselves and how the Government can help them."

It was all simple enough; and accordingly the uplift commission sent out 500,000 circulars to fish for information, and it held meetings in various parts of the country to find out what was the matter with the farmer and how he could be put on a social, sanitary and recreative equality with the children of innocence and mirth in the crowded cities. The commission's report was forgotten long ago. Mr. ROOSEVELT's injunction that "your purpose is neither to investigate the farmer nor to inquire into technical methods of farming" was ignored, the commission devoting many pages to the technical side of farming and touching lightly the seamy side of farm life.

Now Mr. TAFT seems no crying need of uplift in the farmer's condition. At Syracuse he dealt almost exclusively with the farm as an area of production which must be extended if the next generation was to have enough to eat. The agricultural colleges, he said, were being supplemented by agricultural high schools and by consolidated rural schools. He approved of a proposal to have a trained agriculturist in every county in all the States to teach the farmer what he did not know about tilling and rotation of crops and about

"breeds of plants" as well as breeds of cattle; in short a scientist would be placed at the call of the farmer to instruct him in intensive cultivation and the raising of fine stock. Mr. TAFT said nothing about the raising of children, nor did he scold the farmer's wife. He made only a casual reference to the social side of life on the farm:

"To-day, with improved roads, with suburban railways, with the telephone, with a rural free delivery, and I hope soon with the parcels post, the life of the farmer will approximate much more nearly that of his city brother than it ever has in the past."

Mr. TAFT seems to have got his inspiration for the Syracuse address from the warnings of Mr. JAMES J. HILL, that the United States would soon be confronted with an economic crisis if the output of food products was not increased by less wasteful and more scientific methods of cultivation and by the reclamation of every acre of land that could be devoted to the raising of crops.

The Hon. Hoke Smith's Ticket.

Governor-Senator HOKE SMITH is disposed to be humorous. His suggestion of a Democratic ticket for 1912, with the Hon. JUDSON HARMON and the Hon. WOODROW WILSON as chief personages, or vice versa or the other way, as somebody once smartly said, is very much like a proposition to purloin oil and water for medicinal purposes. It is not so grotesque as it seems, however, for the condition of the Democratic party is faithfully represented in HOKE SMITH'S prescription. To yoke together in a similar way Mr. TAFT and the Hon. ROBERT MARION LA FOLLETTE would be just about as practicable for the Republicans. No doubt HOKE SMITH feels that he must have his little fling; and as the divisions in Republican circles are quite as acute as in Democratic circles he considers that he can enjoy his joke without doing any particular harm. Has the Georgian Governor-Senator, we wonder, visited Savannah lately and ameliorated his system with the whitening that sizzle and the shrimps that steam at Thunderbolt?

The idea of HARMON and WILSON is admirable in that it is thoroughly characteristic of the present predicament of the Democratic as well as the Republican party. It is a catchpenny scheme to attract all the wings of the singular olla podrida now known as the Democracy. The Governor-Senator must have chuckled over it vastly. On the surface, why not? HARMON will hold all the conservative old line Democrats, and WILSON will be as fly paper for the progressives, the faddists, the Populists and the crazy riffraff generally. As a matter of fact, will it work? There is at least one argument in its favor—the wildest inhabitant of the underbrush cannot be influenced by any plea of BRYAN when WILSON is revealed to him with insanity in both hands.

The Hon. HOKE SMITH retires from Spring Lake winking like any Roman augur and happy with his little witticism. He has proposed a compromise that will join common sense with hysteria and leave no leak by which the most inconsiderable vote can escape. After all, isn't it about the best thing the Democrats can do with the material now at hand? He must have a stout heart and an impervious imagination who would propose a Democratic amalgamation on any different terms. The South will accept HARMON because his principles as disclosed in his public record appeal to the thoughtful and substantial elements of the population. The South will acclaim WILSON because he was born in Virginia. What more could any party ask in these very piping times?

As for the party's platform, there is

A Politician.

To DAVID B. HILL'S declaration, "I am a Democrat," Senator ARTHUR P. GORMAN, the Democratic candidate for Governor in Maryland, in a speech accepting the nomination adds with unconventional frankness: "And I am a politician." It is a worthy profession, according to the son of his father.

In making a choice of my life work it has seemed to me that in politics, as in medicine and other professions and vocations, knowledge and experience should be sought and should be valued, and that men should enter the field seriously and openly.

"I have gone into politics in Maryland for no other purpose than to find a successful and honorable career. I think I have a lively and profound sense of the responsibilities and duties of political life. I am fully conscious of the fact that no man can really succeed in politics except by proper, intelligent and valued public service; public usefulness must be absolutely the measure of success."

In England, France, Spain, Italy, Germany and in contiguous Canada men make a profession of politics and suffer no loss of reputation, because politics in those countries is not regarded as synonymous with graft and corruption, and the measure of success is usefulness to the State. In England men are born into politics; they inherit it; but times have changed, and unless they show capacity for public service they are overshadowed by a man of plebeian origin like DAVID LLOYD GEORGE. The brilliant Welshman, by the way, would not deny that he is a politician. In the United States it has become a term of reproach, and yet every canonized leader we have had was in some sort a politician, judged by organization standards. The lamented LINCOLN was one of the ablest politicians of his day. Senator GORMAN, however, will shock the moral sense of many well meaning persons by his audacious confession. But let him explain himself:

"I believe in organization. No party can thrive and carry its platforms into effect without it. An organization to last must be representative. It must represent all interests in the party. What is needed is a little clear thinking on this subject. We must not confuse the machinery of organization with the organization itself. The men who do the very necessary work of party machinery must not think that they are the party, neither must they all be damned because some of them are selfish or dishonest or dishonest."

Maryland has enacted a corrupt practices act, "the most drastic in the

country," says Senator GORMAN; vigorously enforced, it will make "machine politics" impossible in his opinion. Still, he is the organization candidate, and as such he will be assailed and will lie under the suspicion of intending to build up a personal machine. Mr. GORMAN is now a believer in the primary, because, his critics will say, he owes his nomination to the operation of the new primary law. His views on the subject do not suffer from want of frankness:

"Under ideal conditions one contestant in a primary should be the organization candidate as much as the other, and to a degree this is always so; but if the rank and file of the organization leaders and workers support one man and claim to be the organization they are entitled to all the actual votes they can poll. It is a well known fact that under all conditions and circumstances those who call themselves the 'organization' are in a primary always numerically in the minority. The whole question is one of fairness and honesty, and the new law compels that. If those who oppose the 'organization' refuse to come out and vote when they are assured of absolute fairness and honesty they have themselves to blame if they permit the organization to win the primary."

Of course the organization will always endeavor to win at the primary, and success will often be the reward of its labors. Under any device election system this would be the case. But it is seldom a candidate for office puts the matter so clearly as Senator GORMAN has done. He expects to be chosen Governor if he can convince the voters that he is an honest and capable politician. He has served notice upon them that if "without injuring the public service" he can appoint Democrats he will always do so. So that if he is to be elected Governor it must be as a Democrat and as a politician. It occurs to us that there is probably not a Progressive or an Insurgent in the land who would proclaim himself a politician. At the same time we do not know of a leader among them who is not as much of a politician as the Hon. ARTHUR P. GORMAN, but not half as honest about his occupation.

The Control of the Republican Party.

The first political question raised by the new apportionment vitally affects the Republican party of this State, since it changes the centre of gravity of the machine. Under the division of 1901 New York city contained seventeen of thirty-seven districts. It therefore had seventeen out of thirty-seven seats in the Republican State committee representation, which is based upon the Congressional districts, and also the one member at large.

Under the new apportionment twenty-two of the forty-three seats allotted New York, or an exact majority, are situated wholly in New York city, while two more districts contain portions of the city territory. If the Republican State committee is to continue to elect its governing officers on the basis of Congressional districts it is clear that hereafter New York city alone will control a majority of the seats and also have a strong influence in two more, ignoring the member at large, who is and doubtless will continue to be a New York Republican.

But while New York city now contains considerably more than half the population of the State it does not cast half the Republican vote. On the contrary, of the 622,000 votes cast for the Hon. HENRY L. STIMSON last year only 197,000, or materially less than a third, came from this city. This means that the 197,000 Republicans of New York will have a deciding influence in a committee in which the representatives of 425,000 Republicans will be a helpless minority.

If the statistics for the twenty-five Congressional districts included wholly or in part within the metropolitan area, exception being made for the Westchester-Rockland district, are examined the situation is not different. Thus the 237,783 Republicans of these counties will be represented in the next Republican State committee by twenty-five members, the 381,416 Republicans of the remaining counties of the State by eighteen members, and 38 per cent. of the voters will control 58 per cent. of the members of the committee.

That less than a third of the Republicans of the State will be permitted to exercise more than half the power is not to be expected. If no direct primary legislation is passed at the present session of the Legislature, as seems certain, the Republican party may be expected at no distant date to remodel its executive machinery.

Unquestionably in the next State committee the members will be permitted to cast a vote based upon the proportion of the votes in their district to the total Republican votes, if the Congressional district plan is retained, or else the members will be chosen by Senate or Assembly districts. The first of these plans has been used in the New York county Republican organization. But whatever change is adopted it is clear that the present apportionment will necessitate a radical overturn in the system of party administration, for it is inconceivable that minority rule will be long endured by a majority none too friendly to this city.

A measure of the present value of the commercial stake for which France and Germany are contending at the present time is disclosed in the statement of the American Consul at Tangier printed in the *Daily Consular and Trade Reports*. The total foreign trade of the Moroccan Empire in 1910 amounted to \$19,019,590, of which \$22,277,000 in the preceding year, against \$11,828,000 represented imports and \$7,223,000 exports.

The division of the trade among the European nations and the United States is shown in the following table:

	Imports.	Exports.	Total.
Great Britain	\$4,700,000	\$1,885,000	\$6,585,000
France	4,470,000	1,655,000	6,125,000
Germany	1,375,000	1,836,000	3,211,000
Spain	287,000	935,000	1,222,000
United States	87,000	184,000	271,000

The percentage of the four European Powers was, respectively, Great Britain, 35, France, 32, Germany, 17, Spain, 7. The share in the imports into Morocco, the real test of the importance of the market, was: Great Britain, 40 per cent.; France, 38 per cent.; Germany, 12 per cent., and Spain, 2 per cent. It is clear then that Great Britain and France control about four

fifths of the import trade of Morocco, and that the German share is insignificant.

It is possible to value too cheaply the North African market on the strength of these statistics. Algeria, just to the east, had a total foreign trade in the same year of \$216,000,000, almost equally divided between import and export, and the future of Morocco commercially is by many believed to promise greater commercial prosperity than Algeria. In the Algerian trade the French share exceeded three-quarters.

WILCOX contradicts the Mayor—Headline. Good for the Mayor.

The action of Borough President McANULTY in asking the Board of Estimate for \$25,000 to build a subway connecting the Hall of Records with the new municipal building again reveals the devotion of this official to the cause of rapid transit and his determination to obtain at least one subterranean monument before he quits office.

Assessorial districts suggested—The *Yorkers* Stateman.

Assessorial is a triumph for any language.

"DON'T GIVE UP THE SHIP."

Is the Last Flight of Lawrence Left Out of Brooklyn School Histories?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: To settle an argument you give the name of the American naval commander who just before his death gave up the ship "Don't Give Up the Ship," also the name of his ship and near what harbor he was killed. I was very much surprised to learn how ignorant the average American is of his country's history. I have asked about ten Americans the above question, and the answers are as follows: Two said it was Nelson who exclaimed, "Don't give up the ship"; two, Dewey; one, Sampson; four, Perry, and one, Farragut.

I was surprised at these answers after consulting a United States history now being used in the public schools of Brooklyn. This history does not mention the name of Lawrence or his ship the Chesapeake. In fact it does not mention the battle during the war of 1812 in which the English were victorious.

It seems to me rather a pity that American children should be allowed to remain in such ignorance of the "patriotism" of the writers of public school histories. A. E. CORTIS.

New York, September 19.

The writer of this letter supplies the answer to the main question. Lawrence, however, did not give up "Don't Give Up the Ship" from the bloody deck of the Chesapeake "just before his death." He survived the duel with the Shannon four days, and Captain P. V. Broke, who himself was wounded in the duel, had his brave opponent buried with military honors at Halifax.

The famous sea fight was the sequel to a challenge by Captain Broke, who had a well disciplined crew which he exercised constantly in gunnery. About two years before the duel the Chesapeake's defeat was up the Hornet had challenged the English ship, Peacock to combat off Demerara and had taken her after a sharp engagement of fifteen minutes, in which the Hornet's loss was slight and the Peacock's one-third of her crew, including Captain Lawrence, who was scrupulous on points of honor, felt himself obliged, therefore, to accept the challenge of Captain Broke, although the Chesapeake was short of competent officers and her crew was new to him, not to mention the fact that the Peacock was a superior ship. The Hornet had ordered to go to sea from President roads, Boston Harbor. He might have chosen time and tide, but he was not the man to evade such a challenge as was sent in to him.

The Peacock in the earlier fight in which Lawrence was victorious. The gunners of the Shannon opened fire about 5.45 P. M. June 1, 1813. The place was some thirty miles off the coast. Until the ships were within range the Peacock's gunners held their fire, and then delivered a broadside, but in the end the superior gunnery of the English prevailed. The rigging of the Chesapeake was shot to pieces and she was thrown into the wind and then fouled the Shannon, who, having well directed, raised her anchor. Lawrence fell with a mortal wound, and as he was being carried below he called upon his crew not to give up the ship. But every commissioned officer had been killed or wounded. The men of the Shannon then boarded and carried the English ship, meeting with no organized resistance. It was all over in fifteen minutes. The Chesapeake lost 45 killed and 56 wounded. The Shannon 23 killed and 56 wounded.

When a ship is so completely defeated as the Chesapeake's, defeat was a glorious one, and to omit it from a school history is to defeat the object of the "patriotic" author as well as to do an injustice to the memory of one of the bravest officers ever carried on the rolls of the United States navy. How few men of the name of the Shannon's victorious commander.

The body of the heroic Lawrence and that of his gallant lieutenant, Ludlow, who also received a mortal wound in the engagement, were restored to the United States and buried in the city of New York. Judge Joseph Story delivered an oration over them. From the monument in its precincts a little history can be learned, and perhaps some inspiration derived, by Americans whose school histories have neglected the deeds of our heroes. It was who exclaimed in the agony of a mortal wound, "Don't give up the ship."

An Eighteenth Century Flying Machine.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: I enclose an exact copy of an item in the *New Jersey Gazette* regarding the flight of a man in a flying machine from New York. It may be of interest to those who read the present day notes of our aeronauts.

SOUTH ORANGE, N. J., September 19.

The fireworks that were played off at night were perfectly fine. There were rockets as large as one of our big houses and a number of long lengths. They mounted about the middle range of the air, and cast a great blaze that they lighted the country six leagues around, as if the sun had been shining. The rockets were of this kind, slitting themselves down on the end of these rockets, ordered it to be fired, and was whisked up into the air higher than any four stories in the world. The rocket having spent its strength, and being ready to fall down, all luminous with the infinite number of stars that broke from it every moment, the engineer opened a sort of umbrella, surrounded with stars, which, when it was extended, was little less than thirty feet in diameter. This umbrella was made of feathers and so light that the air supported it without any trouble, no other than the weight of the man himself. The man was in a cage, which being fastened to a long string of pack cord, the children make them fly in the air. Inasmuch that the engineer supported by this sort of umbrella, surrounded with stars, came to the ground as gently as if he had wings and could have flown with them.

How M. Claret Met Jules Cambon.

From the *Courier des Etrangers*.
Have I never told you one day in December, 1870, on a blizzard by the Marine beyond Nogent I met a young lieutenant, his uniform black with powder stains, his face radiant over the results obtained by his poor little militia of the Seine-et-Marne? With a smile he said to me: "I have raised these brave fellows just by saying to them, 'Come on my friends, courage and forward! This is for the country.' At these two words 'the country' they have taken their lives at Fontenoy, their armor at Thionville, their homes and their parents, and they have fought like veterans."

Well, one more M. Jules Cambon repeats his words spoken at the sort of Champagne, but to-day it is to himself and for us that he repeats softly, "Come on, another hard day, forward. It is for the country."

The Little Game.

Mrs. Outrude—What was the ailment of the friend you sat up with?
And they lie—strabismus; he couldn't see straight.

FOR POLITICAL SANITY.

Wanted, a Leader to Lead Back to Prosperity.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: On September 14 THE SUN printed conspicuously a letter signed "Anti-Progressive." It is deserving of the highest commendation for its thorough common sense, its conservative views and its keen insight into present conditions. No one appreciates "Anti-Progressive's" letter better than the business man, but—and here lies the difficulty—where are the men to lead, to start the ball rolling in favor of a return to sanity? As the correspondent truly says, the old leaders are discredited. Where then shall we turn for new ones?

The pressing and vital need of to-day is a man of the Mark Hanna type, actively identified with big business interests; willing and able to devote his time, his abilities and his energy to rehabilitate the nation and bring back the same conditions which prevailed before the pernicious activities of Mr. Roosevelt started the country on its downward course.

We do a lot of writing to various journals, a lot of talking among ourselves, but what is gained thereby? Action, and immediate action, is what is imperatively needed now. The sound common sense of our business men has come to the rescue of this country in its previous trials; so can that common sense be relied upon now, only it has got to be aroused. The politician, devoid of all business training and experience, dictates to-day, and such rule is the more galling when we reflect that these men do not add an iota to the country's welfare, have never contributed hand or voice toward its uplifting, but are so intent on their reckless schemes and methods to perpetuate themselves in power that the entire prosperity of the country is put in jeopardy. We need a few men with the courage to tell the truth about business and about our corporations, to tell of the evils of competition, of the instability of wages, of the constant warfare between business concerns, resulting only in the survival of the strongest, all such things as happened in the past.

We do need a leader, never so badly as now; but who is it to be?

THOMAS MAXWELL.

New York, September 20.

A Few Reminders of the Power of Business Men in Past Years.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Since THE SUN on September 14 printed the letter from "Anti-Progressive" calling upon business men to organize for the Presidential campaign of 1912 so that they may be protected from the crazyheads in both the Republican and Democratic parties, I have heard the most genuine sentiments of commendation. Straightway the minds of those who have discussed the proposition went back to the great business men's organizations in the campaign of 1884. The Republicans and Democrats both had tremendous business organizations in that Presidential campaign. In 1888 the Democratic business men's organizations had won, while the Republican business men's organizations were revived and practically brought about the election of Harrison over Cleveland. The hastily constructed and ill advised Mills tariff bill gave the Republicans the opportunity they desired. In 1892 the business men took a hand in defeating Harrison because of the unpopularity of the Harrison Administration and the unwisdom of the McKinley tariff law. Again in 1896 the business men came to the front with colossal organizations made up mostly of Republicans opposed to the Wilson tariff law, but in those Republican business men's organizations of that year were thousands upon thousands of Democrats who would not accept the 16 to 1 free silver ratio plank in the Democratic national platform.

In 1884 the business men of the country were so evenly divided between the two parties that practically the result of the campaign left the issue in doubt. In the last hours it hinged on personalities. But in 1888 the business men without the slightest doubt elected Harrison, just as again in 1892 the business men of the country elected Cleveland, as they elected McKinley in 1900. With the death of McKinley and the advent of radicalism in the Republican party, accompanied by attacks on the business interests of the country, these attacks having been borrowed from the Bryan wing of the Democratic party, there have been upsurge and disaster followed by panic after panic, until now, according to competent testimony all over the country, business men of the two parties are sullen, defiant, angry and eager to strike down the politicians who have been beset with the notion that destruction of the business interests of the country was the only avenue to political preferment.

In last November's elections there was not a single Democratic victory in the country. This statement is made without the slightest fear of contradiction. It is true that the Democrats captured the House of Representatives, re-elected Governor Harrison in Ohio, elected Dix in New York, Wilson in New Jersey, Foss in Massachusetts, Baldwin in Connecticut and Plaisted in Maine. The best testimony, though, of all those States which elected Democratic Governors is that the result was brought about by the withdrawal of Republican support from Republican candidates, and the same reliable testimony accounts for the election of a Democratic House of Representatives. The ballot in many campaigns has been used not to reward but rather to punish. This was notably true in the elections of November, 1910. Since November of last year, when the business men all over the country struck down the Republican party because of Rooseveltism and the Bryanism that had crept into the Republican party, the feeling among the business men in the Republican ranks has grown deeper and angrier. It has penetrated to the small shopkeeper, the bank clerk and the humblest clerk who for years and years have voted the Republican ticket. These men are inherently Republicans. When they voted against their party or when they remained away from the polls last fall and the Democrats won by default they were still Republicans. They are Republicans still, but they threaten to be very, very still in the campaign of 1912.

Let me relate three personal episodes in last fall's campaign. Ex-Senator Albert J. Beveridge, who was fighting for the Republicans to control the Indiana Legislature so that he might be returned to the United States Senate, said in the closing days of the campaign that he was to be re-elected "because Indiana was opposed to the Payne-Aldrich tariff law," and he, Beveridge, had conducted his campaign on the line of opposition to the Payne Law. Instead Beveridge was sadly defeated.

Grapevine 300 Years Old.

From the *Cherryville Eagle*.
On Roanoke Island, N. C., there is a superlative grapevine said to be over 300 years old which still bears an abundant crop of grapes. It is one of the most interesting plants in the world, for there is good authority for the assertion that it was planted by Sir Walter Raleigh's party that sailed from England for the New World in April, 1585.

Spare, Oh, Spare the Equinoctial Storm!

Full many a storm dead to us.
Have scientists, get on to us.
Full many a storm dead to us.
They solemnly say so!
But what is the use of saying so?
If it truly informs?
They say there is no such thing as all.
As the equinoctial storm?
We knew just when it would make for us.
In heavenly anger grand.
Our last sure thing they would take from us.
"Time that we made a stand."
If that is the final say of them.
And they lie—strabismus; he couldn't see straight.
May the devil fly away with them.
On an equinoctial storm!
McLARDEN WILSON.

THE NEWS FROM CHINA.

Theory of the Plague—Business Not Good—Other Items.

E. C. Peters, an Englishman who has been in business in Tientsin, China, for seven years, said yesterday at the Washington conference that the most generally adopted theory for the origin of the pneumonic plague, which recently caused great loss of life in upper China, had something to do with Manchurian marmots.

"The plague started in northern Manchuria," said Mr. Peters. "In the old days as soon as the marmot trappers saw that the animals were dying they would go back to the towns. But years before last the price of skins went up so that the collectors were not satisfied with an ordinary gathering, but went back into the country where the animals were dying and brought back more skins. It is supposed to have been these men who got the plague and brought it to the towns. Once it started it came down along the railway like a streak, and we would hear one day that it had reached one town and the next day the next town on the railway. When it got within the walls at Tientsin people were in a ferment of excitement, but as soon as warm weather came the plague died out."

"We had about sixty-five cases in Tientsin. Such cases as we had were usually due to coolies from Manchuria, who would impart the disease to their families and the whole lot would die. Excepting Russians, who herd together like Chinese, the only foreigners I heard of who succumbed to the plague were the two doctors—Messrs. the Frenchman, at Harbin and Christie, the Englishman, at Mukden."

"The crop situation in China was fairly good. I left for the coast the great crop is kaoliang, a kind of millet which the natives use to build houses, for fuel and as food for their ponies and themselves. Kaoliang crop is good everywhere is good."

"The American colony in Tientsin is growing. It mixes with the English and the other foreigners there celebrate the holidays of the other nations. There are only about 3,000 foreigners in all. One thing that is interesting everybody there now is the proposed extension of the Chinese Imperial Railway from Kalgan to a point on the Trans-Siberian which would shorten the time from Peking to London to ten days."

"If the Chinese students who are educated abroad of the country are coolies in the United States or Europe there would be less trouble at home when they get back," said Mr. Peters. "The vast majority, however, are still sent to Japan. They stay only eight or ten months on the average, and they come back with swelled heads and no real knowledge of anything. When they get back home their ideas are so inflated that everybody that great men they are, and this leads to trouble."

"One of the main attractions of life in the Far East is the solution presented of the servant problem, which now seems to be causing trouble in most Western countries. I have not had to change my servants in the seven years I have been out there. They do not desert. I pay my 'boy,' who is the boss of the household, only \$15 a month, and the cook gets the same, out of which he has to pay the 'little cook,' his assistant. The gardener gets \$10, the housemaid \$10, the laundry woman \$10, the housewife \$10. All this in Mexico, and amounts to only \$35.50 a month. I am told you often have to pay that much in New York. I am sure you are very busy, but I wanted to bring my boy along, but feared he would be spoiled in England. It always happens when you bring Chinese servants home."

"At home in the United States we have three in the races, twice a year, three days in spring and three in the autumn. Everybody closes up shop when the horses are run. The Chinese have a very wild Mongolian pony, which we buy and race. Except for racing there is little to relieve the monotony. We are happy when business is good; otherwise we mope a bit. Of late I have been very depressed, and we blame it upon conditions in this country."

BAN ON COLORED TEA.

Treasury Department Decides That It Will Not Be Admitted.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20.—Tea containing artificial coloring or facing matter hereafter shipped from abroad will not be admitted at the custom houses of this country, according to a decision made public at the Treasury Department to-day